

Amendments to the Specification:

Place the following paragraphs on page 7 of the specification after paragraph [0019] of the published application:

[0019.1] FIG. 1 shows an orientation of an individual's and the user's ears that is useful for describing the present invention;

[0019.2] FIG. 2 shows typical right ear a transfer characteristic for acoustical signals at a frequency of 0.5 kHz;

[0019.3] FIG. 3 shows the transfer characteristics for acoustical signals at 1 kHz;

[0019.4] FIG. 4 shows the transfer characteristics for acoustical signals at 2 kHz;

[0019.5] FIG. 5 shows the transfer characteristics for acoustical signals at 4 kHz;

Place the following paragraph after paragraph [0022]:

[0022.2] FIG. 8A shows a result of switching an operating mode.

Please amend paragraph [0023] as follows:

[0023] According to FIG. [[1]] 7, a microphone arrangement 1 of the device according to the present invention comprises at least one microphone 3, e.g. and in the most simple form of realization with an omnidirectional transfer characteristic as schematically shown at T₁. The microphone arrangement 1 is e.g. to be placed behind e.g. adjacent the

top of individual's ear pinna 5. Remote from microphone 3 there is provided a further microphone 7, which, again in the simplest form, has an omnidirectional transfer characteristic T_7 . The respective electrical outputs A_3 , A_7 of the microphones 3 and 7 are operationally connected to a beam former unit 9 (see FIG. 6). In a most simple form of realization the beam former unit 9 is a "delay and add" beam former unit. Nevertheless, for more sophisticated tailoring of the beam forming action of the unit 9 such beam forming unit may be realized as described in details in the WO 99/04598, in the WO 01/60112 or in the WO 99/09786, all of the same applicant as the present application. Thereby, the skilled artisan is aware of a multitude of different forms of realizing such a beam forming unit. According to the present invention the microphones 3, 7 and the beam former unit 9 provide for an omnidirectional characteristic up to about 2 kHz and, for higher frequencies, turn to a directional beam forming characteristic as e.g. to a first order cardioid ~~cardoid~~ transfer characteristic.